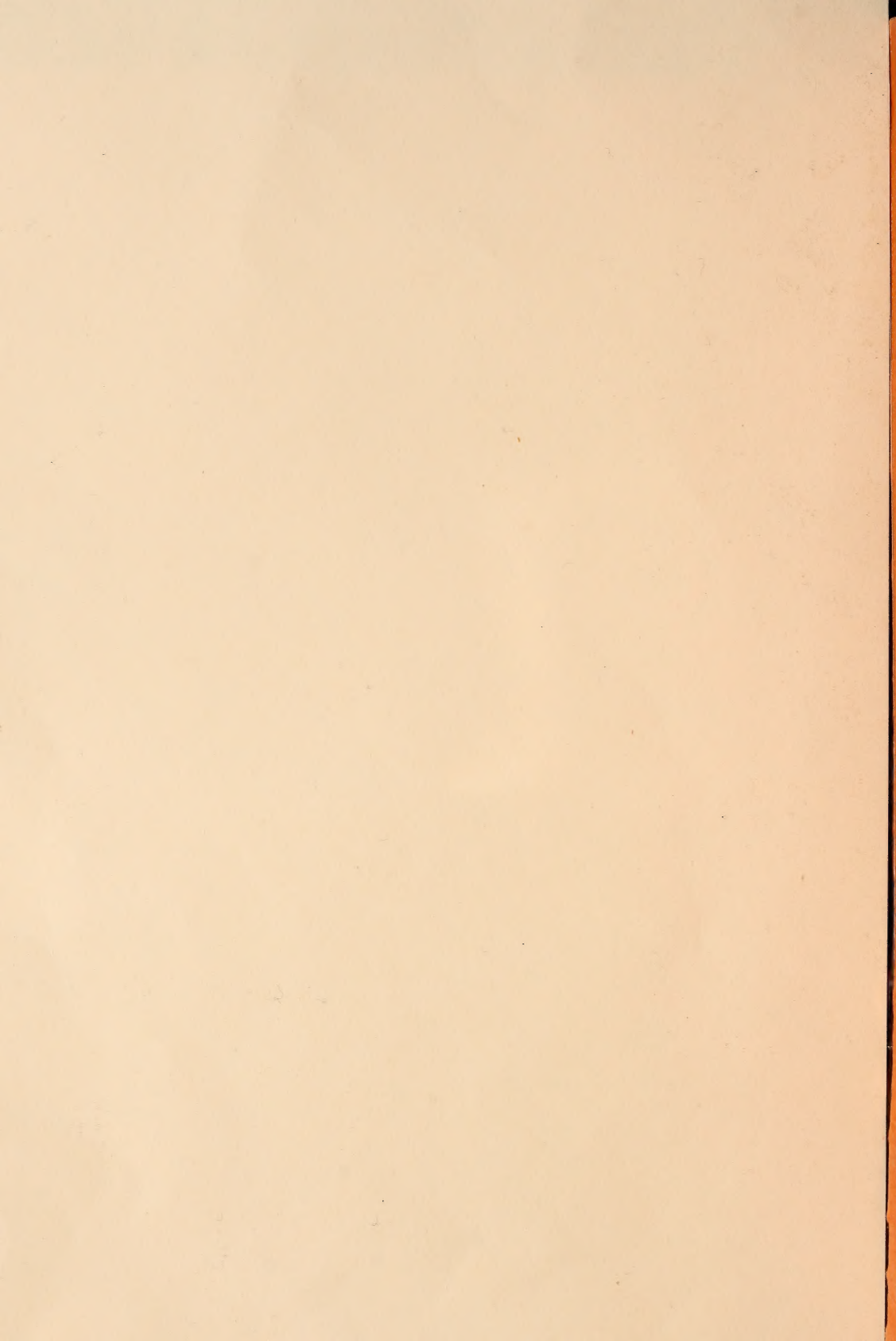


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1906 CATALOGUE

OF

STRAWBERRY PLANTS

AND

GLADIOLUS BULBS.

M. CRAWFORD COMPANY,
CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO.

DUFFY, PRINTER

A FEW WORDS TO OUR CUSTOMERS, PAST AND PROSPECTIVE.

We greet you with our twenty-seventh annual catalog, which gives descriptions and prices of more than fifty varieties of strawberries, including many of the old standard sorts and several choice novelties. Those who have dealt with us in the past know that we sell good plants, true to name, well packed, and delivered in good order. Those who buy of us this spring for the first time will find our dealings square and honorable, and we hope to add them to our list of permanent customers, who are like a circle of valued friends.

Our firm is composed of three members, M. Crawford, his son, Wm. S. Crawford, and Wm. L. Thompson. M. Crawford planted his first strawberry bed fifty years ago, and has been closely identified with this fruit ever since. The younger men grew up in the business from boyhood.

For many years we have paid attention to testing new varieties, and it has been our pleasure to introduce many that have become popular with the public. Among these may be named the Woolverton, Saunders, Wm. Belt, Brandywine, Nick Ohmer, Kittie Rice, Margaret, Senator Dunlap, Miller and Challenge. Our later additions to this list, Beaver, Nimrod, Mrs. Miller and Victor, have been out but a short time.

Each year we make it a point to buy plants of most of the new introductions that give promise of becoming popular, and are able the following year to furnish our customers with well grown plants of these varieties at prices within the reach of all.

It is not our ambition to do an immense wholesale business, but rather to carry on a carefully conducted retail trade, making sure that every customer is well served, and given full value for his money. We sell at prices as low as are consistent with the service we render.

We also offer a stock of gladiolus bulbs of such a high grade of excellence that they have received unstinted praise from judges who criticise discriminately.

PICTURES.

Most of the small fruits of the present day are advertised by pictures, and if these were all true to name and perfectly correct they would be a great advantage to both sellers and buyers of plants, but what are the facts? Take the strawberry for instance. It is often the case that a cut is used to represent several different varieties at different times. It still oftener happens that a cut is exaggerated out of all reason as to size. In a picture of a strawberry, the seeds are the criterion by which to judge the correctness of its dimensions. If they are larger than real strawberry seeds the cut is magnified. In many instances they are represented as large as radish seeds, and sometimes half the size of apple seeds. A cut of any variety should represent that variety and no other; and should represent it correctly. Failing in this, it is not worth the room it occupies, and furthermore, it is an instrument of deception.

ALLEY PLANTS.

These are the young plants which set last in the fall, and some growers assert that they are worthless, but such is not the case. They are characterized as "undeveloped," "immature," "the last effort of the runner," and so on, and all these things are true of them, but still they are not worthless. On the contrary, they have a peculiar value for certain purposes. We will explain. Alley plants are the result of a checking of growth by cold weather before the young plants have reached full size. These young plants, not having had time to develop fruit buds, send out runners earlier in the season than do the more mature plants, and while they are not considered salable, we have known of a number of successful growers who used them for their own planting because of their superiority in the matter of early running. They have another advantage. There are no blossoms to be cut off, and this is a part of the grower's work very likely to be neglected.

Some varieties, such as Parker Earle, make but few plants as a rule, but if the young, small plants are used to propagate from, they send out plenty of runners, not having any blossom buds to draw upon their strength.

The late P. M. Augur, of Middlefield, Conn., was one of the most successful strawberry growers of his time, raising immense crops from plants set in the summer. His favorite variety was the Jewell, a seedling of his own that made but few runners. His plan was to set alley plants in the spring, and let them make runners as early as they would. As soon as these runners had rooted, early in July, he set out the plants thus formed, for bearing the next year. Beds thus prepared gave him some wonderful yields.

Mr. Varnum Frost, a famous grower near Boston, who has his berries engaged a year in advance at forty cents a quart, always uses alley plants.

Mr. Arthur T. Goldsborough, of Washington, D. C., who has grown the largest strawberries on record,—four ounces and over—selects young runners with roots just starting and grows them as cuttings until they are of suitable size to plant out. From these he obtains the marvelous berries he exhibits.

On the other hand, many successful growers choose the largest and most thrifty plants for setting, and are confident that it pays to do so.

All this testimony goes to show that success in growing berries is not dependent upon the size of the plants, and also that alley plants have a value for certain purposes.

Up to the time mentioned above, Mr. Streater had never given the Cardinal any more than fairly good culture, but we advised him to put some runners and give them an extra chance. He did so, and showed us samples of the fruit the next year, better than that of 1903. The plant of the Cardinal is an ideal one, large and vigorous, sending out many strong runners, and making a strong plant. All it lacks is a better blossom. It is a pistillate. We which many fail to do. It is not the largest - we could name several that produce berries. The strong recommended berry, and its desirable points, and its

RECENT INTRODUCTIONS.

Every year we look out for new varieties of strawberries that are likely to prove valuable, and last season we found quite a number that were very promising. These we herewith place before our customers, hoping that they may find some among them which are suited to their special needs.

THE CARDINAL.

It is with great satisfaction that we offer this berry, and we wish that every person receiving this catalog would order at least a few plants, so perfect is our confidence in it. We might almost say that it is now offered for the first time, because the stock was so small a year ago that plants could be supplied only in limited numbers, and at high prices. Nor has any one a large stock now, except the introducers, The Templin Company of Calla, Ohio, and even theirs is not as large as it might have been, for the reason that more than half of all the plants they set last spring were drowned by wet weather. By their generosity in allowing us to propagate from plants that we had on trial on our place, we now have the largest stock in existence, except that at Calla, and yet we are not likely to have enough. It is not our custom to give advice, but we think that those who wish to order plants of the Cardinal should do so early.

We expect, from what we have seen and heard of this berry, that it will be a great success over a wide area. We cannot imagine its making the record it has in Ohio, Kansas and Rhode Island, and failing elsewhere. From the time of its first ruiting we heard of its merits, and waited with interest for an opportunity to purchase plants, for we were confident from the start that it would become a favorite. After seeing it on the originator's place, and fruiting it here two seasons, we still maintain our high opinion of it. In the summer of 1903, our Mr. M. Crawford visited its home, and saw it in bearing for the first time. Here is his account of it: "One of the most delightful trips I ever took was that to Garrettsville, Ohio, on June third, 1903, to see the Cardinal strawberry on the grounds of the originator, Mr. George J. Streater. It was about sundown when I reached Mr. Streater's home, and he took me at once to look at the strawberries. I found the Cardinal and forty other varieties growing on a heavy clay loam of good average fertility. No fertilizer of any kind had been used, except a heavy application of unleached wood ashes. They had had only fair, ordinary culture, and had not been covered in winter, but a light mulch of corn-stalks had recently been placed between the rows, to keep the fruit clean. The plants had been set the year before, in rows six feet apart, and the Cardinal was almost the only variety that covered the ground. The plants were perfectly healthy and quite thick in the rows, and every one seemed to be bearing. The fruit stalks were tall and stout, and Mr. Streater stated that they had stood up until the load of ripe fruit became too heavy for some of them. The berries were large, beautiful and delicious. After looking over all the varieties on the place in a hurried way, my impression was that the Cardinal was bearing the heaviest crop of all. The next morning I took a more careful and leisurely survey, and still thought the Cardinal ahead. I became fully convinced that it was a variety that we could not afford to do without."

Up to the time mentioned above, Mr. Streator had never given the Cardinal any more than fairly good culture, but we advised him to pot some runners and give them an extra chance. He did so, and showed us samples of the fruit the next year, finer than that of 1903.

The plant of the Cardinal is an ideal one, large and vigorous, sending out many strong runners, and making strong plants. All it lacks is a perfect blossom. It is pistillate. We have seen varieties that set more fruit, but it ripens every berry, which many fail to do. It is not the largest—we could name several that produce larger specimens—but it will be noted for size and good form. It is not more beautiful than the Kittie Rice, but is much like it, and very fine looking. It is not equal to the Wm. Belt in flavor, but is hardly surpassed by any other well known market berry. The strong recommendation for the Cardinal is based upon its high standing in all desirable points, and its freedom from faults.

When the Cardinal is to be grown in matted rows,—and that is a good way to grow pistillate varieties—it will not be necessary to plant closer than four by four feet.

In the summer of 1904 the Templin Company paid Mr. Streator \$1,000 for the Cardinal, and moved the stock to Calla in the fall. This firm is on the lookout for the best in everything, and we think they have made no mistake in this. We give a few extracts from their catalog :

"Five years ago our attention was called to a new Strawberry, the "Cardinal," then growing and fruiting on the experimental grounds of Mr. George J. Streator, the originator, at Garrettsville, Ohio. He is a horticulturist of national renown.

The Cardinal was creating a great sensation among berry growers. By request, fruit in both ripe and green stages, together with stems and foliage, was sent to us for examination, which resulted in a member of our firm going to see it. We found it growing along with 40 other varieties for comparison, but in healthfulness, luxuriant growth and productiveness the Cardinal far excelled them all. A subsequent visit convinced us that it possessed sterling merit as an all-purpose berry, our faith being further strengthened by very flattering reports from experiment stations and other horticulturists of national repute."

A Bit of the History of the "Cardinal."

"In 1896, while working in one of my gardens, which was used alternately for strawberries and vegetables, and in which self-sown Strawberry seedlings were common, one of them showed remarkable proportions; the seed and secondary leaves were of unusual size and substance. It was a little giant among the seedlings, it seemed a little prize then, it has proved a great prize since. Fruiting with a lot of promising seedlings the next season, it surpassed each and all of them. It was the largest and most vigorous plant; the leaves were larger, healthier, had more substance, making a superb lung system for a plant. A great truss of beautiful bright red berries pushed through the foliage on a stem of remarkable size; the firm, solid berries were of ideal shape, large, fine quality, of pronounced aroma. The plant matured them all. After fruiting, the mother plant showed uncommon vitality, in the large number of strong pink runners that made a great rosette of plants. Autumn set plants of these, in comparison with a score of the good old kinds and best new ones, showed great superiority. The superior size of the plant, the power to produce runners, the size of the fruit and its great productiveness made it a giant among strawberries, and for a time it was called Gigantic, but from its color it was afterward called 'Cardinal.' "

GEO. J. STREATOR.

THE TEMPLIN CO.

GENTLEMEN:—I suppose you are anxious to hear regarding the behavior of the "Cardinal," which, I am pleased to state, has been all that Mr. Streator and you have claimed for it. We are just through picking it, commencing June 20. It is a *great berry*, and I have never enjoyed picking a berry so much as I have picking the Cardinal. They produced the *most beautiful clusters of berries I have ever seen during my 35 years growing berries*. They were shown in the window of one of my customers, on the principal street of this city, where crowds of people halted to admire them. The berries were borne on stems 10 to 12 inches long, and the clusters were far more *perfect and beautiful* than the illustration that was shown in the Government Yearbook.

At our Rhode Island Exhibition I was awarded, for the Cardinal, 1st prize for "Best new variety," 1st prize for "Best one quart." The officers of the R. I. Society were so much pleased with the Cardinal that they awarded a "Certificate of Merit" for its *large size, good flavor, productive-ness, good color and long bearing*; it being the first time such a Certificate had been given a Straw-

berry by the society. At the R. I. show I was awarded 20 prizes in all, on the various sorts exhibited. Those who attended the exhibition were much interested in the Cardinal, and I boomed it.

The Cardinal is very productive, of good size, good color, stands up well, and the flavor is all right, but lively. The berries grow on strong, tall stems, and are easy to pick. It is not what would be termed a "very large" berry, but it is *large*. If I can give any further information I shall be glad to do it.

Yours very truly,

Providence, R. I., July 16, 1905.

A. W. CLARK.

OFFICE OF
DOUGLAS COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

LAWRENCE, KANS., May 27, 1905.

MR. WM. BROWN,

DEAR SIR:—We have examined carefully your fine Strawberry beds, at Pleasant View Farm. The old favorites, Parker Earle, Commonwealth and others, are making a fine show and you are justly entitled to great credit for the condition in which we found them. But it was not until we came to your bed of Cardinal that we found a perfect Strawberry, without a blemish; the most tempting to the taste and to the eye, brilliant in color, large enough for "two bites," firm enough for transportation and at the same time delicate enough for the most fastidious palate; the strongest growing vines and largest yield of first-class fruit that we have ever seen. After an experience with the best varieties of this delicious fruit for 40 years past, we think we may safely call the Cardinal superior.

Mr. Streater, the originator, deserves the lasting gratitude of the Strawberry growers of this country for bringing out this magnificent variety. We are yours very respectfully,

JOHN N. MACOME, Pres.

SAMUEL REYNOLDS, Sec.

NEHRING'S GEM.

We have fruited this fine variety three times and found it a model of healthy, vigorous growth, combined with great productiveness. We spoke of it in our July report for 1904 as a promising new sort. It first came to us in the spring of 1902, twelve plants by mail, and they were heeled in, about an inch apart, under a peach tree, and labeled. Later on, when we were ready to plant them out, with others which had been sent us, the label was missing, and for that reason they were not taken up. We afterwards discovered by correspondence what they were, but they were still left where they had been heeled in. In due time they sent out runners and were allowed to occupy a space about four by eight feet, partly under the peach tree. The next year this little bed came into bearing, and made itself noteworthy by the amount of fruit it produced. No record was kept, but at one picking it yielded over five quarts. It also attracted attention by the beauty of its berries, and the length of time it was in bearing. In the fall about fifty layer plants were taken from this bed and set out with a dozen other good varieties for comparison. The next summer it surpassed them all in yield, and last season it again bore an immense crop.

The plant is very large, and a most vigorous grower, sending out a great many strong runners,—it equals the Cardinal in this respect—and is as healthy as a plant can be. It has a pistillate blossom. The fruit is of good size, somewhat larger than Senator Dunlap, roundish conical, and quite uniform in shape and size. Last season was favorable to a rank growth, and many of the first berries were double, which had never been the case before, and perhaps will not happen again. Some other varieties showed the same tendency at the same time. The color is bright red and there are no white tips. The flesh is of average firmness and superior quality. It is a long keeper, either on the plants, or in the baskets. Season medium.

This variety is as well able to hold its own under neglect as any we have seen, and after giving it a fair trial we esteemed it so highly that we purchased the entire stock from the originator, Mr. Wm. F. Nehring, of Missouri. It was our intention at one time to offer it for sale this spring, but the Cardinal seems to be the new berry at the present time, and it would not be wise to place a rival on the market.

It has been our custom of late to offer our patrons some new and valuable strawberry as a premium on orders, and we have decided to give Nehring's Gem this spring—one plant for every dollar received before the first of May. This variety will not be named in our price-list, nor disposed of in any other way than that indicated above. Further notice of this offer will be found on page 17.

THE ABINGTON.

This was found growing wild on a fruit farm in Plymouth Co., Mass., in the spring of 1895. It was first offered last year. It has not fruited here, so we give the following account in the introducer's own words, which we believe to be true:

"The Abington is a strong grower and a good plant maker. It makes stronger growth than the Sharpless. The vines are darker in color than the Sharpless. The plant is larger than the Auto, Oom Paul or Yant, on my ground side by side.

The height of the plant at blooming time is from ten to twelve inches. The fruit stalk is stocky and stands erect from the ground. The number of fruit stalks it sends up is from two to three. The number of buds on each fruit stalk is from ten to fourteen.

The blossom is perfect and large and full, with lots of pollen, so it is a good pollenizer for pistillate kinds.

The Abington blossomed May 12th, 1904, with the Bubach. The first berries picked the 11th of June, also picked Bubach and Senator Dunlap berries at the same time. There was also a heavy bloom on the plants at this time. Picked berries for market the 17th of June. The berries are very large in size, they run as large as the Bubach, also run large throughout the season. It is also a long season berry, the last picked for market the eighth of July. In productiveness it is way ahead of the Bubach, Sharpless or Glen Mary, in fact it is the most productive perfect blossom berry that I ever fruited, and I have been raising berries for market nineteen years. The Abington is the best all-around market berry that I ever raised in my growing berries for market. The Abington is bright red in color, and firm and of good flavor, and shows up well in the crates. I have fruited the Abington nine years, and it has never failed to be productive of large berries. The Abington is a berry that will hold its color better than the Bubach; it does not grow pale after staying over night in the crates. It shows up bright and good color the next morning. It also holds its color better than the Bubach in thick matted rows. The Bubach is apt to be poor color where the vines are thick. The Abington is more productive in matted rows, or under poor culture, than any berry of its class that I ever have fruited, for this berry is in the class with the big berries.

For two rows of the Abington set out in the spring of 1903, the rows were four feet six inches apart and the plants were set 18 inches apart in the rows; kept them cultivated until the first of September then let them run. They made a solid row the next season that was seven feet six inches wide. It would have been about ten feet wide if I had not hoed out the plants in the rows on each side in November to make paths for the next season. I was intending to dig up the plants between these two rows to make a path for the pickers, but the row looked so good the next season that I let them remain to see what it would do in the way of yield. The length of the two rows was one hundred and forty feet. The part of the row that was seven and one-half feet wide was ninety-five feet long, the other forty-five feet of the rows the plants were dug up to make paths for the pickers. From these two rows the berries were picked by one picker, and an account was kept of every box picked. The number of boxes picked was two hundred and seventy.

When a berry yields at the rate of 9,720 quarts to the acre in matted rows, it can be claimed that it is a good yielder. That is the yield of the Abington in these rows.

I claim that the Abington is the best yielder and the largest matted row perfect blossom berry that has been introduced up to date.

At the Rose and Strawberry Exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, June 21 and 22, 1904, I exhibited 25 berries of the Abington in Class 158. I was awarded second prize. These berries were picked on matted rows and were not the largest I could find, for I wanted to show the perfect type of the berry. These 25 berries made a heaping quart.

The Abington is a berry that will take the place of the Bubach, it is a better plant maker, the blossom is perfect and hardy, it sends up more fruit stalks, there are more buds on each fruit stalk, it ripens at the same time, the berry is better color, firmer, better flavor, runs larger throughout the season, and holds its color better after it is picked.

My soil varies from a heavy clay to a gravelly loam; the Abington does well on both.

I have sold the Abington in Brockton for a number of years. It has always brought the top price. Read the following from a firm that has handled it (this firm handles more berries than any other firm in the city):

Brockton, Mass., July 16, 1904.

Dear Sir:—Your Strawberry, which you call the Abington, is a winner, the size, color and eating quality of which beat any berry we ever sold. You can't raise too many berries of the "Abington" variety. If you will set double for next year, I will take all you raise.

Yours truly,

I. F. HILL.

THE ARNOUT.

This variety was originated by a very successful grower of Luzerne Co., Pa. It has not fruited here, but the plant is one of the most beautiful in our collection—large, dark green, clean and healthy. It has a perfect blossom. It makes a sufficient number of strong runners, and is simply perfect in its habits of growth. The following is from the originator's circular:

"Of LARGE size with large, heavy, thick, dark, glossy foliage, sending its leaf well up, thus protecting the fruit. Is free to make an abundance of large, healthy plants of ironclad hardness. The berry is very large, bright red, solid, and of the most delicious flavor, ripening all over evenly with no hard core or sour tips; is very productive and remarkable for carrying size throughout to the last picking. Comes into bearing very early and produces berries for market about four weeks. It does not send fruit stems above the foliage while in blossom, so I have never had any injury by late freezing weather. The calyx adheres firmly to the berry, thus adding to its appearance and shipping qualities, which are the very best."

It ranks far ahead of Haverland, Brandywine, Clyde or Wm. Belt, and does not require the soil so rich—any soil that will grow a good crop of potatoes will do to plant to Arnout strawberries.

I have picked many specimens that measured six and one-half inches in circumference, from a patch that was flooded and roots left bare by the heavy current of water, and that underwent a temperature of twenty-two degrees below zero, in the spring of 1904. *All points considered, I candidly believe this variety to be the best all-purpose strawberry yet introduced.*

So firmly do I believe that my strawberry excels all other varieties in size, productiveness, flavor, color, quality of fruit, uniform size of fruit throughout the season, health and vigor of plant and freshness to make large, healthy plants, that I will give one hundred dollars for twelve plants, of any variety, that will excel the Arnout strawberry."

"As an evidence of its productiveness will say: That my daughter, 11 years of age, at the fifth picking, picked twenty-five quarts per hour, for six consecutive hours."—H. B. McDonald, Justice of the Peace.

THE BEAVERS.

(From Washington.) This is not the same as the BEAVER which we sent out two years ago, but an entirely different berry, although the names are, unfortunately, very similar. It is a native of the state of Washington, and has there made a most astonishing record for productiveness. From the description given by the introducer we compile the following:

"The plant is a deep rooting, vigorous grower, and has a perfect blossom. Fruit large, conical and very uniform in shape and size. Color dark red when fully ripe. Flesh firm, deep red, and of most delicious flavor. It bears a long time. As a canning berry it is equal to the Wilson."

Not fruited here. It remains to be seen how this child of the far west will do in the east, but it seems well worth a trial. We have all the stock there is this side of the Rocky Mountains.

E. H. EKEY.

Originated by E. H. Ekey, of eastern Ohio. Our M. Crawford saw this at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station and was so well pleased with it that we procured plants from the originator, and now have a stock of our own growing. Here is its record at the station:

"With the exception of the Chellie, the Ekey was one of the most beautiful berries grown at the Station this season. The great size of the unusually long, pointed berries, together with their bright, rich color, made them equally conspicuous on the fruiting row and in the basket. While this variety does not promise to be as productive as might be desired so far as the number of quarts is concerned, it certainly does promise to be a satisfactory yielder in dollars and cents. Judging from this season, its great size and beauty will cause it to command a fancy price among appreciative buyers."

"Very large, long conical, pointed and slightly necked, color a rich, bright crimson when fully ripe; very attractive. Flesh red throughout, quite firm and excellent quality. Plants moderately vigorous and quite healthy. Flowers perfect. First blossoms May 13. First ripe fruit June 13; last picking July 5."

THE ELMA.

This variety was originated by one of the most reliable and scientific firms in the country, Jos. H. Black, Son & Co. of New Jersey. They are plant breeders in the proper sense of the term, and have sent out many things of value. The Elma was bred from several generations of very late varieties, and is probably the latest now before the public. Most growers here in the north have learned that late berries are the most profitable. They do not come in competition with southern berries, and just as the season is almost over, nice late ones are in great demand, and bring high prices. The Nettie is very late, and of great size and productiveness. The Robbie is another of the same class. These were crossed, and a new variety obtained. This was crossed with Joe, another excellent late berry, and from among the seedlings thus produced the Elma was selected. It was introduced last season, and has not yet fruited here, but it is a fine grower, and we expect it to be a prize. The following is the originator's description:

"The plant is a strong grower, with healthy foliage, free from rust and disease; flower imperfect, berries large to very large, and of a beautiful bright red. Elma is not quite so large as Nettie, but it is later. It is the latest strawberry that we have ever fruited. During the past five years it has ripened from a week to ten days later than Robbie or Nettie, the two latest varieties ever fruited before we originated the Elma."

THE NEW HOME.

This is W. F. Allen's great berry that he raises by the twenty acres and ships by the carload. It has been tested seven years, and is the only late berry Mr. Allen grows. It has a record of great productiveness, uniformly large size, and unsurpassed keeping qualities. Mr. Allen says:

"It does not need to be picked oftener than three times a week, and for a market that can be reached in twelve to twenty-four hours, twice a week is sufficient. It is the best keeping and shipping berry grown. Fruit late and large as Gandy, bright red in color; and does not change or lose its lustre after being picked. No trouble to get pickers. One man claims to have picked twenty quarts in twenty minutes. A boy seven years old picked thirty-seven quarts in two hours."

After fruiting twenty acres of the New Home last season, and shipping the berries to Boston, a distance of five hundred miles, Mr. Allen said:

"It was very satisfactory indeed. I do not think I would have exchanged it for any other variety I ever heard of. Its strong points are its shipping and keeping qualities, and the retention of its bright, glossy color for days after picking. I do not especially recommend it for quality. There are some not as good, and many that are better. Blossom perfect."

THE NORTH SHORE.

The companion of the Commonwealth, and from the same originator, Mr. Pratt, of Massachusetts, who introduced the Sample and Commonwealth, and has watched the North Shore for five years. This is what he says of it:

"This magnificent berry is a seedling of the Brandywine, and, like its parent, is a fine berry to plant with pistillates. In productiveness it is equal to any of them, and is, by all odds, the finest staminate ever sent out. It is just what market men have been looking for. The North Shore will fill the bill. It is as large as any berry grown. It is early and firm, and will stand rough handling."

DESCRIPTIONS.

For the past few years we have printed our descriptions in classes, as "Early," "Medium" and so on, but this time we have decided to change our plan, and place all, except the "Recent Introductions," in a straight alphabetical list, to facilitate the finding of any given variety. At the same time, for the benefit of those who wish some means of telling at a glance the season of any berry, we give below our entire list, arranged in three general classes, according to time of ripening.

EARLY—Arkansas Black, Arnout, Beavers, Climax, Fairfield, Ham, Haverland, Livingston, Marshall, North Shore, Ryckman, Staples, Warfield.

MEDIUM—Abington, Beaver, Bubach, Boston Prize, Cardinal, Challenge, E. H. Ekey, Howard, Kittie Rice, Margaret, Mead, Miller, Missouri, Nehring's Gem, Nick Ohmer, Nimrod, Oom Paul, Parsons' Beauty, Pocomoke, Pride of Cumberland, Pride of the Valley, Reba, Senator Dunlap, Uncle Sam, Velvet, Victor, Wm. Belt, Wonder, Woolverton.

LATE—Brandywine, Carrie Silvers, Commonwealth, Elma, Empress, Gandy, Latest, Marie, Mrs. Miller, Nettie, New Home, President, Sample, Stevens' Late Champion, Uncle Jim.

We have cut down the number of varieties on our list from ninety-one last year, to fifty-seven this; dropping many for which there was not a lively demand, and omitting several good sellers which we expect to catalog again next year, for the reason that we have not plants enough for ourselves and other people, too. We want the most of our stock for our own planting. This will explain why we do not offer the Hefin this spring.

ARKANSAS (P) This variety fruited here last year in a small way. The plant **BLACK.** is a good, healthy grower, more inclined to make crowns than runners. The fruit is roundish, uniform in shape, dark red, of good quality, and fine looking. It is neither as large nor as productive as we expected it to be, but we hope to give it a better chance and make a better report this year. We have no idea that the originator over-praised it. Early.

BEAVER. (P) The best flavored berry in our collection. This is not a market berry, nor one for inexperienced growers. It requires careful culture. The plant is of medium size, usually healthy, and fairly productive. The fruit is large, roundish conical, bright red, glossy and beautiful. Medium.

BOSTON. (I) A favorite in North Carolina, from where we received our stock. **PRIZE.** The plant is of fair size, a good, healthy grower, and fairly productive. Fruit of good size and color. First berries rather rough. Not at its best with us last season. Medium.

BRANDYWINE. (P) Well known and reliable. Plant a strong grower, makes plenty of stout runners, and is usually healthy and productive. Fruit large, heart shaped, firm, of good quality and rich, deep color. Needs no petting. Midseason to late.

BUBACH. (I) This old and well established variety is one of the most satisfactory in the whole list, in many respects. The plant and its behavior are simply perfect. It sends out a sufficient number of short, thick runners that make good plants as they go. The fruit, although only medium in quality, is rated very high in the market on account of its great size, but it is rather light in color, and only moderately firm. The largest specimens usually have a crease on one side or both. Aside from these defects it is unsurpassed. It is very profitable for a near market. Early medium.

CARRIE (I) In fruiting this last year we found that it corresponded with the **SILVERS.** originator's description, which we give. The shape is nearly round. Season late.

"This variety was the result of crossing with Sharpless a seedling of Warfield fertilized by Parker Earle. Plant and foliage strong, vigorous and healthy; enormously productive; berry large, bright red, good quality and firm."

CHALLENGE. (P) This is very fine when at its best, but it fails sometimes, so we cannot recommend it. It is a great favorite in some sections, notably along the Pacific Coast, and in such it is preferred to all others. Last year

it did well here. Plant large, healthy and enormously productive. Fruit very large, beautiful in color and of good quality. One of the best for dry weather. Medium early.

CLIMAX. (P) A luxuriant grower and a great bearer. Fruit large, red to center, firm, handsome and good. A very popular market berry where well known. It ripens early, and bears a long time.

COMMONWEALTH. (P) From a single trial, and reports that have come to us, we are favorably impressed with this variety. It is a good grower, healthy, and at least fairly productive. Fruit very large, roundish conical, smooth, dark red, firm, and of good quality. Very late.

Mr. C. S. Pratt, of Massachusetts, who introduced the Sample, says:

"I think more of the Commonwealth than I do of the Sample. That is putting it strong enough."

EMPRESS. (P) We have fruited this variety about twelve years, and always found it reliable. The plant is a good grower, perfectly healthy, very productive, and responds to good culture as few do. Fruit very large, conical, and sometimes corrugated, but never coxcombed. Dark, glossy red, and of excellent flavor. Medium to late.

FAIRFIELD. (P) All things considered, this is probably the most profitable of the very early varieties. We quote the originator's description:

"I have never seen any berry nearly its equal for earliness, large size, productiveness, color, quality and firmness. I believe it will average about twice the size and double the quarts that Michel's Early will, aside from being from three to five days earlier."

GANDY. (P) The old standard late variety, noted for its size, beauty, and good flavor. Too well known to need further description.

HAM. (P) We expected too much of this, and were a little disappointed last year. Perhaps it will come up to the description this year. Compared with the Marshall, it was not superior in size, productiveness, beauty, or quality; *but*, the Marshall is great here. It is early, but not the earliest. Here is the Rural New Yorker's description of it, which is, of course, true there:

"Vigorous, with broad, very dark foliage, productive in a high degree of large, long berries, very dark in color, smooth and solid, flesh deep red, excellent quality. Appearance and quality better than Marshall as grown here, and much more productive. Early, but keeps up well throughout the entire season. An excellent table and home berry."

HAVERLAND. (I) One of the old reliable sorts, and succeeds on any soil. The plant is a good grower and an enormous bearer. We have picked at the rate of over 100 bushels per acre at a single picking. The fruit is large, long conical, bright red, moderately firm, and of fair quality. The fruit stalks are not strong enough to hold up their load of berries, so mulching is a necessity. Early.

HOWARD. (I) This has been called Howard's 2, but it seems better to shorten it as above. The plant is of medium size, but a very prolific bearer. The fruit is rather larger than Warfield, and nearly as dark in color, with light red flesh. In form it is short conical. It keeps well after ripening. There are sometimes places in the bed that seem to be deficient in foliage. Medium early.

KITTIE (I) Next to the Senator Dunlap this is the most popular variety on our list. We usually run out of plants of both, but we have a large stock this year, and hope to be able to supply all demands. The Kitty Rice is a vigorous grower, healthy and productive. The fruit is large, conical, and just about perfect in color and quality. It is glossy, and so beautiful that it sells on sight. Season medium. In some catalogs this is called Downing's Bride.

LATEST. (I) We have fruited this fine, late variety three times, and like it better and better. For a good description of it we will again quote from the bulletin of the Ohio Experiment Station for 1904:

"Very large, rather long, bluntly conical, sometimes flattened; color dark crimson with mottlings of a lighter color—very beautiful. Flesh red, (very light) only moderately firm; quality good. Plant healthy, vigorous.

The Latest was one of the most beautiful berries of its season, which is fully as late as that of Gandy, the quality being much better. It is a variety well worthy of a trial, and promises to be equally good for home use or not too distant market. Its attractiveness on the market stand will catch the eye, and command an exchange of dollars for berries."

We will also repeat, from our last year's catalog, a testimonial from Mr. Levi Falor, one of our thorough Summit County growers:

"When the Senator Dunlap begins to ripen on the 13th of June, the Latest begins to blossom, the first berries being ripe on the 8th of July. It lasts till the end of the month. Foliage dark green the entire summer, and an abundance of fine, large, firm berries."

LIVINGSTON. (P) We have fruited this once, and found it so close to the originator's description that we give his own words:

"A seedling of the Warfield pollenized by Jessie. It is a vigorous, healthy plant, with very thick, leathery, dark green leaves. It forms splendid crowns, and roots very deep. The berries are a beautiful scarlet. The shape is similar to the Warfield, but more full at the point. In size it equals the best specimens of the Jessie. Its quality is the very best."

It is classed among the early berries.

MARGARET. (P) We cannot better describe this grand berry than by repeating what we said last year: This variety is from Mr. Beaver, and under high culture is one of the best berries ever sent out. Mr. E. C. Davis, of Massachusetts, has grown specimens over three inches long, and has had it in bearing thirty-five days in succession. The plant is of good size, a good bearer, a healthy grower, and makes enough runners. The fruit is very large, usually conical, sometimes long oval-shaped, dark glossy red, and of excellent quality. Although the Margaret makes a long season it may be classed as a late variety. It responds to a winter covering of manure as few others do.

MARIE. (I) This variety has good habits of growth, and the plant is healthy and productive. The fruit is very large, round, red and handsome, and of fair quality. Late.

MARSHALL. (P) One of the finest berries ever sent out. The plant is large and vigorous, and so clean and healthy looking that it is a pleasure to grow it. It is strictly a fancy berry, and there is nothing common or cheap looking about it. It is fairly productive, and matures every berry. The fruit is very large, roundish, very dark, glossy red, beautiful in appearance, and of most excellent quality. Early, but not the earliest.

MEAD. (P) The Mead is one of the most beautiful growers on our place. The foliage is very dark green, and without a speck of rust. The fruit is of fine form, solid and good. So far as we could judge by fruiting it in a small way, it agrees with the originator's description, which says:

"It is a heavy cropper of good sized berries, which hold their size well till the close of the season. It colors evenly, with no white tips, does well on all kinds of land, and will make a good showing on very light soil."

MILLER. (P) This berry has established a reputation as one of the good, reliable, standard varieties. The plant is large and healthy, a great runner and a great bearer. The fruit is very large, roundish conical, uniform in size and shape, bright red on the surface and paler within, moderately firm and of excellent quality. Season medium.

MISSOURI. (P) This variety maintains its reputation as a good grower and plant maker. Healthy and productive. The fruit is large, dark red and firm. Midseason.

MRS. MILLER. (I) This is the berry that we gave to our customers last season as a premium, and we are more than ever of the opinion that we gave them a variety of great value. It behaved so beautifully last season that we think even more highly of it than before. It appears likely to win a position among the very best of our late varieties. Its great healthy plants, green and clean, are a delight to the grower, and its generous yield of brilliant berries shining among the leaves amply rewards all his care and pains. The fruit is very large, dark red and glossy, oblong in form, slightly flattened and of delicious flavor. The flesh is red. Medium to very late.

NETTIE. (I) The plant is a good healthy grower, and an excellent bearer. The fruit is very large, of fairly good form, a little too light colored and quite acid, but *very late* and a money maker.

NICK (P) A healthy, vigorous grower and a good bearer. It sends out plenty
OHMER. of stout runners which are rather slow to root. The fruit is of the very largest size, and of roundish conical form, except the first berry on each stem, which is apt to be corrugated. In color it is a rich, glossy red, and very beautiful. When compared with Beaver, Nimrod or Wm. Belt, its quality is only moderately good. It ripens in midseason.

NIMROD. (P) This choice variety is from Mr. John F. Beaver, of Dayton, Ohio, who also originated the Beaver, Kittie Rice, Margaret and Nick Ohmer. It is the most beautiful berry in our collection, and one of the finest for the amateur grower. The plant is of medium size, and healthy, with thick, substantial foliage, entirely free from rust. It is a good bearer. The fruit is large, short conical in shape and very uniform, brilliant red in color, smooth, glossy, firm and second to none but the Beaver in flavor. Season medium.

OOM (P) Plant healthy, large, vigorous and productive. Fruit very large to the
PAUL. end of the season, rather long, sometimes corrugated—quite irregular in shape. Red all over, lighter towards the center. Flesh moderately firm, and of good average quality. Inclined to bear in the fall. Season medium.

PARSONS' (P) This and Pocomoke are much alike. The plant is a model of
BEAUTY. healthy, vigorous growth and great productiveness. It brings to maturity an immense crop of large, handsome berries. It is a little tart, but a favorite in the market, and very satisfactory to the grower. The fruit is conical in form, bright red and firm. Midseason.

POCOMOKE. (P) One of our most reliable market berries. Plant healthy, vigorous and very productive. Fruit of large size, quite uniform in shape, some of the largest specimens a little rough, colors all over; flesh firm and of good quality. Time of ripening, medium.

PRESIDENT. (I) This is a healthy, vigorous grower, produces a moderate number of berries, and brings them all to maturity. The fruit is of the very largest size, even to the end of the season, and on this account it is a great attraction. It is uniformly round when well pollenized, dark red and handsome. Last season some of the largest specimens were hollow or pithy, and some had gnarled ends, probably due to imperfect fertilization. The quality is good. Season very late.

PRIDE OF CUMBERLAND. (I) This is recommended as immensely productive, and the equal of the Gandy in size, color and flavor, but we found it hardly as large, and no more productive. The fruit is bright red, and of good quality. Season medium.

PRIDE OF THE VALLEY. (I) Found in an old bed of Gandy, in Stark County, Ohio, by H. M. Martin, a successful grower. He has fruited it six or seven years and found it very profitable. The following is his description of it:

"The plant is very large and hardy, foliage dark green, and free from rust; fruit stems very large; berries very large, and run large to the end of the season; dark red all through; fine flavor; a fine table and market berry; good shipper; conical in shape, and as productive as the Wm. Belt. We picked one picking from a half acre that netted us twelve and a half cents a quart, and made us eighty-four dollars. Probably midseason."

REBA. (I) This is a descendant of Bubach, Charles Downing and Gandy. Although we had it for sale last year we fruited it only on a small scale, and our notes are scant. It is described by the originator as large, productive, handsome, firm and good. Late medium.

RYCKMAN. (P) We fruited this last year, and were highly pleased with it. We found it to be all that was claimed for it, and think no one will regret planting it. The plant is large and strong with thrifty leaves and stout fruit stems. The berries are very large, and generally long conical and pointed, but some of the first to ripen are wedge shaped. The color is a beautiful bright red all over, and the quality good. We expected it to be early, but it was several days behind the earliest in ripening.

SAMPLE. (I) This splendid berry originated in Massachusetts, and is one of the most popular varieties ever introduced. It is one of the very best pistillate kinds in cultivation. The plant is large and healthy, and makes plenty of runners. However close to each other the plants may stand in the bed, every one will bear. The plant is well anchored by a great mass of roots which insure it against drouth and frost. It is a great bearer of large, roundish berries, dark red to the center, moderately firm, and of good quality. The fruit is large to the close of the season. Late.

SENATOR DUNLAP. (P) Originated by Rev. J. R. Reasoner, of Illinois. This is the most popular variety in the country at the present time. It succeeds every where, and is especially good for beginners, as they cannot fail with it on any soil or by any mode of culture. It is taking the place of the Warfield with the largest growers, for various reasons. It has a perfect blossom, is a better berry, better able to resist drouth, and less liable to be injured by continued rainy weather during the picking season. It sends out many runners, and should have plenty of room. When the plants are crowded the size of the fruit is diminished. The plant is of medium size, perfectly healthy and very prolific. The fruit is large, but not the largest, and conical in form. Color a deep, rich red, extending to the center. Flesh firm and of a sprightly, delicious flavor. It is classed as medium, but makes a long season, commencing to ripen soon after the earliest, and continuing until near the last.

STAPLES. (P) This is a berry of which every grower should have at least a few, and it would be better to have many. It is the darkest colored berry that we know of, and far above the average in quality. Every housekeeper who makes strawberry jam should have it to give color to the condiment. It is also fine for canning. Many berries turn pale in canning, especially when sugar is used

sparingly, or not at all, but this remains rich and red. It is of the Warfield class, about the same size, and a good pollenizer for that variety. It is a thrifty grower, and bears a good crop. Early.

STEVENS'

(P) This is a very promising late berry. From what we have seen of it we think it has not been over-praised. The plant is all right, strong, vigorous and productive. The fruit corresponds with the originator's description, from which we quote:

"Very large, fine flavored, bright color, good shipper, heavy yielder, good fruit stem. This berry averaged 7,556 quarts per acre in 1902, netting \$666.96 per acre, selling as high as twenty-two cents per quart in New York markets last season. It has been tested on all kinds of soil, and will grow successfully where any strawberry will grow. It will stand a drouth better than any other berry ever grown in this section. It has never shown any sign of rust. The cap, which is double, has always kept green until the last of the season. It ripens later than the Gandy."

UNCLE JIM.

(P) Originated by J. F. Dornan, of Michigan, and sometimes called Dornan. This is a variety that one likes to raise, the plant is so large and productive, and the fruit so fine. It belongs in the class with Bubach and Wonder. It seems to be vigorous, hardy and productive everywhere, and able to bring its last berry to maturity if it has a fair chance. The fruit is very large, long conical, moderately firm, bright red, ripens all over, and is of good quality. Late.

UNCLE SAM.

(I) This variety was introduced five years ago. It has given general satisfaction, and much praise has been bestowed upon it. Our own experience gives us a high opinion of its merits. It is a strong grower and makes large plants with bright foliage. It is very productive, and the fruit is large, roundish, bright red, firm, and delicious. It ripens with the Bubach, but makes a much longer season. The introducer says that it has been picked from May 22nd to July 5th—forty-four days.

VELVET.

(I) Introduced two years ago. Last year our supply of plants was not equal to the demand, and consequently we fruited it only in a very small way. We found the first berry on the stem corrugated, the others nearly round. The introducer, Mr. Flansburgh, gives the following description of it:

"The variety is wonderfully productive, and the fruit is large, bright red, firm, and of good quality. The plants are large, with bright green foliage, clean and healthy, making good rows for fruiting. Medium to late."

VICTOR.

(P) Originated by Mr. D. J. Miller, of Holmes County, Ohio, who also produced the Miller, which has made an excellent record, and its companion, the Mrs. Miller, which we introduced last year with the Victor. We expect that both of these will make their way into the front rank as popular market berries.

The plant of the Victor is of fair size, tough and healthy like the Senator Dunlap, able to rough it, and productive under any method of culture. The foliage is thrifty, dark green and handsome. The fruit is very large, round conical, sometimes corrugated, dark, glossy red, firm and of fine flavor. It is a great berry for market or home use, and good for canning. Medium to late.

WARFIELD.

(I) Originated in Illinois, where it was the leading berry for a distant market until the Senator Dunlap came. Not that the latter is a better shipper, but it is superior in some other points. Both of these varieties make plants freely, and should be given plenty of room in order to do their best. The plants of the Warfield are rather small, but it matures a great crop of fine looking berries that stand up well in the market and sell readily. The fruit is of medium size, rather long, often necked, dark, glossy red, firm, rather tart, and a favorite for canning. Early medium.

WM. BELT. (P) This splendid variety has but a single defect, and that seldom amounts to much. It is rather more subject to rust than most kinds, but with many growers it never rusts. With the foliage of the Cardinal it would be the best variety in our catalog. It originated in southern Ohio, and was introduced by M. Crawford thirteen years ago. We have had it produce berries nine inches in circumference within sixty days after it was transplanted. Under high cultivation the first berry on each stem is coxcombed, but all the others are perfect in form. The color is bright red, and the quality fine. Midseason.

WONDER. (P) This is truly a wonderful berry, and its merits have not been appreciated. Two years ago we quoted from the originator, Mr. S. A. Sampsel, who had grown it five years, and it had brought him \$400 an acre in a section where fine berries did not command fancy prices. He claimed, and no doubt justly, that it was the leading berry in Sandusky County. One year ago our description was conservative, too much so, as we had fruited it but once, and that in a limited way, but last summer it showed us what it could do with a reasonably good chance, and we do not hesitate to give it the praise it deserves.

It makes immense plants, with broad leaves, and strong, stocky stems. It is very productive, and the fruit is of great size and beauty. It is of a fine red color, good quality and moderately firm. The first berry on the stem is sometimes misshapen. It is classed as late, but begins to ripen early, makes a long season and holds up well in size.

WOOLVERTON. (P) Originated by the late Mr. John Little, of Canada, many years ago, and one of the old reliable varieties. It makes large, strong plants, and a fair number of short runners. It blooms a long time, and is an excellent pollenizer. It is one of our most prolific sorts, and the fruit is very large and firm, generally conical in form, but occasionally irregular. It is bright red, and of good quality. Its one fault seems to be that it sometimes ripens with white tips. This is not an established rule, but apparently an accident of season. It begins to ripen with the medium sorts, and continues in bearing about a month.

TO OUR CUSTOMERS.

PACKING AND SHIPPING. We begin to ship plants as soon as we can dig them—usually about April first, sometimes a little earlier. We do not hold plants in cellars over winter. We do not ship plants by freight. We guarantee that all plants ordered sent by mail or express before May first to points in the United States shall reach their destination in safety. If any fail to do so, or if any mistake occurs, we stand ready to make good the loss or rectify the error, if notified promptly.

PLANTS TO CANADA. Owing to the Canadian regulations in regard to the admission of nursery stock into the Dominion, sometimes causing delays which the shipper cannot avoid, we decline to guarantee the safe arrival of plants sent into Canada. Our responsibility on such shipments ceases when we have delivered them to the postal department or the express company.

Double postage is required on plants sent by mail into Canada.

We have made arrangements with a careful and reliable grower in Ontario to fill our Canadian orders for certain varieties, which we shipped to him last spring to propagate from. We hope that this plan will work to the advantage of our customers in the Dominion, and if our expectations are realized we shall increase the number of varieties on the Ontario plantation.

We can ship by express directly over the lines of the United States and Adams (and Southern) Express Companies. We have an excellent method of packing, which combines lightness with security, and thus renders transportation as inexpensive as possible.

Sending plants by mail has long been a specialty with us, and we have sent them with perfect success to every state and territory in this country, and most of the provinces of Canada.

EXTENT OF GUARANTEE. It is our custom to warrant our stock pure, and true to name, and it has never been otherwise, except in a few instances where we received mixed or spurious stock and did not find it out soon enough to withhold it from sale; but we will not hold ourselves liable for an amount greater than that actually paid us for the stock.

TERMS. Cash with order or before shipment. We vary from this rule in our dealings with Experiment Stations and other public institutions, which observe certain formalities in doing business; and sometimes in favor of old customers with whom our past dealings have been satisfactory to us.

SUBSTITUTING. When we are out of a variety ordered, we can frequently substitute another to the advantage of the purchaser, if permitted to do so. It is a good idea for customers who do not order very early, to name a second choice, that is, what they would like next best if they cannot get what they order. This often proves a great saving of time. It sometimes happens that a man gets his ground ready, and then sends for plants, only to find that one or more of the varieties he wants are sold out. This necessitates correspondence and consumes time, and he generally takes a substitute at last. By providing for this contingency at first he might have avoided the delay, and gained the great advantage of having his plants set at the proper time.

On orders received before May first we do not substitute unless we are given permission. We prefer not to accept orders after that date, as plants sent so late are not likely to prove satisfactory. However we sometimes try to accommodate buyers by shipping plants in May—though we consider it a doubtful favor—but in such cases we reserve the right to substitute, and the plants are sent at the purchaser's risk. Our warrant ceases at that date.

ORDERING EARLY. It is a good plan for customers to send in their orders as early as possible, while the stock is full. Some have adopted the thrifty practice of doing this as soon as they can make their selections from the catalog, with a small remittance as a guarantee of good faith, and when ready for the plants they send the amount due. By this method they are almost certain to get what they want, whereas, if they wait till it is time to plant, some varieties are quite likely to be sold out.

HINDRANCES. As previously stated, we begin to ship plants as soon as we can dig them, and in some seasons the weather permits us to go on, with few, if any, interruptions, while in others it is very adverse. Last year we began filling orders on the 22nd of March, several days earlier than usual, but on the 6th of April our good weather came to an end, and from that time until the 24th we had only two good, full days for work, being hindered by freezing weather, snow and rain. Our customers were kind and patient during this trying time, for which we were very thankful. They seemed to appreciate the fact that we were doing our best, and to believe that we were as anxious to get the plants off as they were to receive them.

IN REGARD TO PRICES. Some customers are surprised at the high prices of plants in the summer and early fall. We will explain: There is almost no waste in taking up plants in the spring, for then nearly every one is salable, but it is very different in the summer and fall. Just beyond the plant to be taken up, on the same runner, there is a younger plant not yet ready to sell, beyond this another still smaller, and so on. In taking up the only good plant on the runner the others are lost. We must charge for this loss. Not only this, but it is a slow process searching among young runners for plants old enough to sell, and this adds to the expense. Then, too, the plants that are near to the ones taken up are more or less disturbed. All these conditions make it necessary to charge more, and even then there is not much profit in it. The prices gradually diminish as the season advances and the waste becomes less, until, at the first of November, when nearly all the plants have taken root, they can be sold almost or quite as cheap as in the spring.

We issued no July report last year, and this will explain to our customers why they did not receive it.

SOME OTHER FRUITS.

THE BLOWERS BLACKBERRY. Our Mr. M. Crawford first heard of this fine fruit by way of the New York Tribune, and in August, 1903, he went to western New York to see it in bearing. We make some extracts from his account of it.

Length of Season. "This variety had been in bearing about a month, and all others on the place were gone. I found several rows in a town lot, supported on a very high trellis. It appeared as if the fruit had just commenced to ripen, for there was one of the largest crops in sight that I ever beheld, and I have been familiar with blackberries all my life. From near the ground to a height of ten feet, the trellis was full of berries, many ripe, many red and many green, not yet commencing to turn red. The man in charge told me that they would not be all gone till October, and I had no reason to doubt his word. Some weeks later the owner wrote me that he was still picking berries. Although carrying such a tremendous load, the bushes seemed to be perfectly healthy. In two other gardens, and in a large field plantation the same green, healthy appearance was observed. It was the same with a plantation grown from root cuttings."

In 1904 and 1905 the Blowers produced great crops which sold at high prices, there being no other very large blackberry to compete with it.

Hardiness. "From all that I was able to learn, the variety had never been winter-killed. I failed to find out just how long it had been fruited, but one man who had a short row in his garden for his own use, informed me that he had had it in bearing for seven consecutive years, and had never known of its failing. I saw the place where the original plant came up, and it then occupied less than half a rod of ground, which supplied the family with fruit. I was particular to enquire about its hardiness, for we have many excellent varieties that lack only this one thing. As far as I could learn, no one had seen it injured by cold weather."

Since the above was written we have had two severe winters, and the Blowers came through unhurt, both here and in western New York, near Lake Erie.

Fruit. Now as to the fruit, it is very large and very good. Some weeks before I went to see the Blowers, I visited a plantation of the Eldorado and Rathbun in great perfection, and neither was as large as the Blowers. I have, however, seen specimens of the Rathbun elsewhere that were as large as the Blowers, and perhaps larger, but the Blowers is large, and at the same time appears to be perfectly hardy,

which cannot be said of any other large blackberry that has been tested in this climate. In quality the Blowers is among the best. It has just enough acidity to give it a sprightly flavor, but when dead ripe the acid disappears without leaving a suggestion of bitterness, and the fruit simply melts away in the mouth.

Purity of Stock. We were so unfortunate as to get a few spurious plants among the first Blowers we purchased from the originator. If we had grown them for fruit this would hardly have been worth mentioning, but as we used many for propagating, the spurious ones were multiplied as well as the genuine. Last summer we went over our young plants and tied tags on all that were not true. Then we cut off the growth above the tags and destroyed all the foliage. This nearly killed the plants, and in the fall, when we were digging, every one marked with a tag was thrown out. We believe that our stock is now pure.

THE COMET CURRANT.

We obtained this from the introducer, Mr. Fell, of the island of Jersey, in 1898, and offered it for sale first in 1904. We sold our plants very close, expecting to grow plenty more from cuttings, but we were belated about getting them in, and consequently had but few plants last spring, and they were sold by correspondence. This year we have a fine stock of number one plants.

Description. The bush is a satisfactory grower, and holds its leaves late. It is a good bearer, equal to the Victoria and other prolific sorts. It produces large bunches of large berries. Bunches have been grown containing 26 berries, almost equal to small clusters of Delaware grapes. Prof. Beach, formerly of the N. Y. Experiment Station, says that the berries will average larger than those of Perfection, which is probably the best American variety. The flavor of the Comet is excellent, and it hangs on the bushes in good condition for a long time after ripening. It has taken first prizes at exhibitions wherever shown in England.

Prices by express, 20 cents each; \$2.00 per dozen; \$12.00 per hundred. If wanted by mail, add one cent for each plant.

A FERTILIZER FOR THE STRAWBERRY.

People write to me quite frequently inquiring what is the best commercial fertilizer for the strawberry. I invariably advise them to use a good "Potato Phosphate," but this is not always easily found. I have been using commercial fertilizers more than forty years, and have tried many brands, giving liberal applications, for I hate to go to the expense of producing a crop and then fail for want of plant food in the soil. In growing a crop that is as valuable as the strawberry, one can not afford to take any great risk to save the price of a few bags of fertilizer. The difference in value between a good crop of strawberries, say two hundred bushels or more per acre, and a poor one, say one hundred bushels or less, may easily amount to several hundred dollars on a single acre. The best commercial fertilizer that I ever used is a Potato Phosphate that is worth thirty dollars per ton, and a ton is enough to enrich from two to four acres, according to the previous fertility of the land. This brand is a complete fertilizer, suited to any crop on any soil. It is honestly made, of good materials, and produces astonishing results. It is so rich that only a small amount is required. It costs no more to carry it than a brand worth half as much. It is packed in sacks containing 100 pounds each; price \$1.50 per sack, or \$30.00 per ton. The buyer pays the freight. Ask your agent the rate from Zanesville, Ohio. Send your order to me with the cash, and the goods will be shipped promptly.

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS.

Ammonia	2 to 3 per cent.
Available Phosphoric Acid	9 to 10 "
Insoluble Phosphoric Acid	2 to 3 "
Actual Potash K. 2 O.	6 to 7 "

The ammonia in this brand is in an available form, not locked up in worthless materials, as ground leather scraps, hair, and so on.

M. CRAWFORD.

PRICE LIST OF STRAWBERRIES.

PLEASE PRESERVE A MEMORANDUM OF YOUR ORDER HERE.

Date.....1906 Amount sent, \$.....

To be shipped by.....on or about.....

These prices are by express, not prepaid.

When plants are ordered by mail, add 5 cents for each dozen; 10 cents for each 25; 30 cents for each 100.

For Canadian orders the above rates must be doubled.

Six plants of one variety at dozen rates; 50 plants of one variety at hundred rates; 500 plants of one variety at thousand rates.

Customers sometimes want 100 plants made up of four 25's, or 1000 made up of four 250's, and do not know what price to affix. For this reason we have placed the prices of 25's and 250's in our list.

Imperfect varieties (I) must have perfect varieties (P) near them.

Imperfect and pistillate mean the same; perfect and bisexual mean the same.

	I2	25	100	250	1000		I2	25	100	250	1000
Abington (P).....	.50	.75	2.50			Miller (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Arkansas Black (P).....	.15	.20	.60			Missouri (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Arnout (P).....	.50	.75	2.50			Mrs. Miller (I).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50	6.00
Beaver (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Nettie (I).....	.20	.30	1.00		
Beavers (P).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50		New Home (P).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50	5.00
Boston Prize (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Nick Ohmer (P).....	.15	.20	.60		
Brandywine (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Nimrod (P).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50	
Bubach (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	North Shore (P).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50	
Cardinal (I).....	1.00	1.50	4.50			Oom Paul (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Carrie Silvers (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Parsons' Beauty (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Challenge (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		Pocomoke (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Climax (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		President (I).....	.20	.30	1.00	2.00	
Commonwealth (P).....	.25	.40	1.25			Pride of Cumberland (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
E. H. Ekey (P).....	.50	.75	2.50			Pride of the Valley (I).....	.25	.40	1.25		
Elma (I).....	.50	.75	2.50			Reba (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Empress (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Ryckman (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Fairfield (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		Sample (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Gandy (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Senator Dunlap (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Ham (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		Staples (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Haverland (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Stevens' Late Champ. (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Howard (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Uncle Jim (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Kittie Rice (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Uncle Sam (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Latest (I).....	.20	.30	1.00	2.00	6.00	Velvet (I).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50	
Livingston (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Victor (P).....	.25	.40	1.25	2.50	6.00
Margaret (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		Warfield (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	
Marie (I).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		Wm. Belt (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Marshall (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50	Wonder (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50
Mead (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10		Woolverton (P).....	.15	.20	.60	1.10	3.50

OUR PREMIUM OFFER FOR 1906.

To any person sending us an order amounting to \$1.00 or more, accompanied by the cash, or cash before shipment, between now and May first, we will send free with the order, one strong plant of the Nehring's Gem strawberry for each dollar received.

CERTIFICATE OF NURSERY INSPECTION.

No. 332. COLUMBUS, OHIO, Aug. 24, 1905.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the growing nursery stock and premises of M. Crawford Co., M. Crawford, Mgr., situated near Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County, Ohio, have been inspected in accordance with the provisions of the Nursery and Orchard Inspection Law of the State of Ohio, and have been found apparently free from San Jose scale, black knot, peach yellows, or other dangerously injurious insects or plant diseases.

This certificate is void after September 15, 1906.

A. F. BURGESS, Chief Inspector.

THE PEDIGREE QUESTION.

About two years ago when we started to investigate this subject we advertised for plants that had grown under neglect until they had lost, or nearly lost the habit of blooming. In response to this we received plants from many localities, scattered from New England to Nebraska. Most of them were very unpromising looking, some being three or four years old. If a strawberry plant can properly be called a "scrub," these were genuine scrubs. Among them were Crescent, Capt. Jack, Glendale, Jucunda, Miner's Prolific, Wilson and other old, well known varieties that I had grown years before. They were heeled in for a few weeks, and then all were planted on good, heavy loam, and well cared for. The runners were cut off faithfully all summer, and the bed was covered with fresh stable manure in the winter. When spring came, instead of showing that they had lost their habit of blooming, the most of them appeared to be trying to make up all the time they had lost while neglected, and their bloom was something wonderful, likewise their yield of fruit. It was refreshing to see the old favorites of twenty-five years ago giving such abundant proof of their merits. Quite a number of growers came to see them, and all agreed that they made a remarkable showing. Since issuing our catalog a year ago, we have received many letters on the pedigree question, only one of which spoke in favor of so-called pedigree plants. We will give this one entire, and extracts from a few others. We should like to give many more, but our space is limited.

STORM LAKE, IOWA, Feb. 10, 1905.

M. CRAWFORD: Dear Sir:—I have been using Pedigree plants for eight years and have been well pleased with results. Have attempted three tests with scrub plants of same varieties, but severe winter and weather conditions put all plants to a disadvantage. Winter of 1903-4 being severe, plants were seriously damaged, but when fruiting time came, Pedigree plants produced fully one-half more fruit, and of a more even size and quality. In two previous tests, noting vigor of plant, and quantity and quality of fruit produced, Pedigree plants ranged from 30 to 50 per cent. ahead. Had great care been taken in selection of scrub plants, no doubt that the per cent. might have been reduced to 20 or 30, but even then, Pedigree plants are far ahead. I am a firm believer in the feasibility of selection and restriction of plants for the improvement of fruits. I care not whether they are called Pedigree, or by some other name. No one man or firm has a monopoly in the improvement of plant and fruit. The same theory is adopted by all of us who have to do with animal and vegetable production. We carefully select each ear of seed corn, why not select each plant with the same care? A. S. CAULKINS.

Here is the oft repeated question, "If selection is good with corn, why not with strawberries?" The answer is, that the ear of corn corresponds to the berry, and not to the plant. The ear of corn contains a number of seeds, and so does the berry. Each of these, if sown, will produce a new creation, but a plant grown from another plant is merely an extension of the plant that produced it, and is of the same variety. It cannot be changed except as its environment changes, and such change is not permanent. The argument that plants can be permanently improved by selection is founded upon the fallacy of assuming that plants produced from other plants are new creations, like those produced from seeds, which is not the case.

The following is a part of a letter from Mr. B. F. White, of Terryville, Conn.:

"No plant or fruit can be improved by bud, graft, cutting, runner, eye, root, bulb, or offset, for all these methods are only a continuation of the original plant. To support this statement I will give a little of my experience: When the New Queen potato was introduced, I resolved to make an improvement, or, at least, to keep the variety from running out. I went through and carefully staked those hills that had the strongest and most stocky plants. At digging time I dug these selected hills, saving only those that had large and even-sized tubers. These were planted in a patch by themselves, and the process of staking the best hills and saving for seed only the largest and most even tubers was repeated. After five years I was satisfied that the method was a failure, but still I kept on, hoping that there might be a break or a sport in time; but after eleven years of painstaking effort I gave it up, for I found that I had the same old "tater," no better nor no worse than the same variety grown in the ordinary way."

Mr. C. D. Warner, a veteran strawberry grower of Livonia, N. Y., says:

"I fail to find where the pedigree of a variety can be changed or improved upon without resorting to seed, the direct and only way that we can form a parentage or pedigree of any thing. Man may manipulate, but when nature places her seal upon the result, it is fixed. We may increase the yield, improve the quality, and stimulate the growth of the plant, the parentage remains the same."

Mr. H. Rockhill, of Conrad, Iowa, after a thorough trial of pedigree plants, has this to say:

"Neither kind of these pedigree plants ever produced larger plants or larger fruit, or better fruit or more of it than plants of my own growing, or from other nurseries."

Mr. Wm. C. Little, of Haverhill, Mass., writes:

"Pedigree refers to ancestors, consequently seed of some kind is implied. Every living thing has a pedigree, either known or unknown, and that pedigree once fixed cannot be changed by propagating an offshoot, by runners, root cuttings, grafts, or buds. A plant may be improved by careful cultivation, but the pedigree remains the same."

Mr. E. W. Wooster, of South Hancock, Maine, writes that he carried on quite extensive experiments with so-called pedigree plants, and found them in no way superior to ordinary ones. A number of his neighbors also tried them, but with no better results.

Mr. Geo. F. Beede, of Freemont, N. H., reports having given them a very thorough trial, but he will buy them no more. His sons in California also purchased a large number. They lost money but gained experience.

The following article from the latest strawberry bulletin of the Ohio Experiment Station is one of the best that has appeared on the subject in question, and we take pleasure in presenting it to our readers. The source from which it comes gives it weight, for there is no guess work about the results obtained from experiments carried on at the Station. We predict that this report will be accepted at its face value long after the pedigree theory now before the public has had its day.

PEDIGREE STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

The word "pedigree" has come to be used with reference to plants in a sense which conveys a meaning that is altogether untruthful. An animal with a pedigree is one having a known ancestry. The parentage on both sides must be known for one or more generations. The value of a pedigree consists not in its length, merely, but in the character of the parentage. The longer the line of good ancestry, as determined by the performance of these ancestors, the more probable it is that the individual having such a line of ancestry, or pedigree, will partake of, or inherit, the family characteristics.

Plants are not unlike animals in having inherited tendencies, and the longer the line of good parentage the stronger do these tendencies become. There are well bred plants, or varieties of plants, which compare favorably with well bred animals in their power to transmit characteristics. It has not been the custom among plant breeders, however, to keep a record of the parentage of plants; that is, plant pedigrees have not been established, except very rarely. A pedigree in the case of a variety of plants propagated from seeds, as in the case of vegetables or grains, might have great value because it is the aim of the grower of such plants to secure uniformity in the product and to develop a strain which will come true from seeds. Continued propagation and careful selection of a variety of this class insures a fixedness of characters, even though the pedigree is unknown, but a knowledge of the ancestry would add to the value of such a strain. *Any variety of plants which is propagated from seed may have, and ought to have a pedigree.*

Any plant which is propagated by means of cuttings, layers, runners, grafts or any method of division may have a pedigree also, but its value would not be enhanced thereby. Plants which are propagated by division come just as nearly true, that is are not more inclined to vary or sport, with a poor than with a good ancestry. A seedling from Ben Davis would, when propagated by division, hold its type quite as well as one from Grimes' Golden. So far as known, a seedling from Michel's Early would be no more likely to sport back to a lower type than one from the Marshall. In the case of varieties of plants which are propagated from seeds the type is fixed and held by selection, and the more careful the selection, or in other words the better the pedigree, the more firmly the type becomes fixed and the better the variety. With plants which are propagated by division selection has nothing to do with the fixedness of the variety. Plants of this class are more firmly fixed by nature as to type than are those which are propagated from seeds. We must not regard any class of plants as absolutely fixed and unchangeable, for the tendency to vary, or sport, is manifest in all.

To secure a variety of strawberry with a pedigree, two varieties must be crossed when in bloom. This process may be continued with the progeny indefinitely, and if a record is kept of the parentage the result is a variety with a pedigree. The mere selection of plants of a variety, without regard to both male and female parents, does not establish a pedigree. A pedigree variety can only be established by growing plants from seed, and a seedling with a pedigree of the class of plants which are propagated by division is no better than one without, because the good qualities of the ancestors may, or may not, be transmitted. There is nothing in a pedigree of this class which will help to fix and hold the type as with plants grown from seed, nor does a pedigree in the case of such plants insure a better performance.

The conclusion then is warranted that the so-called pedigree strawberry plants which are said to have been produced by selection are not pedigree plants at all, and that real pedigree strawberry plants have no value above those without a pedigree. The word "pedigree" as it is used with reference to strawberry plants is a misnomer. It tends to confusion in the minds of many and leads to deception.

The word is used out of its true sense to convey the belief that a condition exists which does not and cannot exist, or if it could exist would have no value. A sport may occur in a variety of strawberry as well as any other class of plants. Such sports or varieties are quite common among carnations, roses and chrysanthemums. When such a sport occurs it really constitutes a new variety and may be propagated by division, but it is in no sense a pedigree plant. The sport may sport again and possibly in the desired direction and thus constitute a further improvement, but if it change at all it is likely to revert to the original form.

There is no method known of causing or controlling sports. They can only be seized upon and perpetuated when found. This is selection merely, and it does not take into account the controlling of crosses along with selection, as in true plant breeding. One who chances to find a sport has nothing to do with its origin, nor is the sport of such a plastic nature that he can mold it or cause it to take a still more desirable form. He is a discoverer but not a plant breeder in the full sense. He does not and cannot by any such process establish a pedigree. It is scarcely less than fraudulent for any one to claim a pedigree for a plant form which he has simply found but had no hand in fashioning. Undoubtedly there are true sports which constitute real improvements in classes of plants which are propagated by division, but this superiority must be shown by trial. One may know of an apple tree which appears to bear better and is more fruitful than its fellows of the same variety, but in order to determine whether it has superior qualities or not it must be taken from its present environment and tested under different conditions. This takes many years, but nothing short of such a test will settle the matter. Likewise one may find what appears to be an improved strain of some variety of strawberry. He may accidentally stumble upon it or he may systematically search for it. He may resort to whatever means or methods may theoretically seem most likely to yield the best results, but in all cases the supposed improvement must be put to the test. No pseudo-scientific nor semi-scientific explanation of how it was done will prove that such plants are in any way superior to other plants of the same variety. The proof must come through trial alone. That any one can easily be mistaken in supposing that his selection is superior is quite natural. Even those who produce new varieties by crossing and growing from seeds often overestimate the value of their productions, and one who seeks to improve a variety of strawberry by selection is still more liable to make a false estimate, because the differences are not so manifest as in seedlings. In all cases the final test is in the trial plot. In no other way can we estimate the effects of environment.

The Experiment Station has put some of these so-called pedigree strawberry plants to the test and they have been found wanting. Not one has shown any superiority over the same variety from other sources.

No differences could be seen in the foliage, nor in disease-resisting powers, nor did the yield establish or disprove the claims made by the pedigree plant men. In 1903 seven varieties, viz., Senator Dunlap, Sample, Warfield, August Luther, Brandywine and Parker Earle were on trial. An equal number of so-called pedigree plants and of plants of the same variety from a reliable grower were planted side by side and given the same care so as to keep the rows uniform. Five of the seven varieties gave better yields from the common than from the so-called pedigree plants. In 1905 the following varieties from the two sources were on trial: Gandy, Senator Dunlap, Sample, Parsons' Beauty, Warfield, Brandywine, Haverland, Bubach. There was a uniform and comparable stand except in the case of the Bubach, the common plants making a poor stand. Not rejecting the Bubach, four varieties of the so-called pedigree stock took the lead against four of the common stock. The positions of the Warfield and Sample were reversed in the two seasons. The results of these two trials were about the same as might have been expected had all the plants come from one grower. The results are inconclusive, which negatives the claims made for so-called pedigree plants.

We have made still other trials of so-called pedigree strawberry plants and have in no case found any reason to believe that if pedigree strawberry plants have an existence the pedigree has any value to one who buys them.

Prices of Blowers Blackberry.

BY EXPRESS, 80 cts. per dozen.

\$4.00 per hundred.

If wanted by mail add one cent for each plant.



The National Fruit Grower

ST. JOSEPH,

50

MICHIGAN.

Enclosed herewith find 25 cents to pay for The National Fruit Grower one year to

Name

Address

MAIL THIS COUPON TO ADDRESS ON OTHER SIDE.

THE REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF

The National Fruit Grower

is 50c per year or \$1.00 for 3 years and it is well worth double the price asked. Renewals cannot be had for less except on conditions below. The National Fruit Grower is published monthly in the heart of one of the greatest fruit regions in America and is one of the most valuable horticultural journals in the world.

We want our friends to have it. If this coupon is used, the publishers will accept new subscriptions at 25c per year, and renewals at the same rate when accompanied by a new subscription at 25c.

COMPLY WITH ABOVE CONDITIONS AND MAIL THIS COUPON TO

M. CRAWFORD COMPANY, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

FROM

.....
Post Office

County..... State.....

M. CRAWFORD CO.,

CUYAHOGA FALLS,

OHIO.

ORDER SHEET.

M. CRAWFORD COMPANY, CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO.

Amount enclosed, \$ _____ Date, _____ 1906.

Name, _____

Address, _____

Ship on or about _____ by _____ to _____

Date

Mail or Express

Name of Office

If we are sold out of anything ordered, may we substitute? If so, please state your preference.

No. Plants	VARIETY	Price		No. Plants	VARIETY	Price	
		\$	Cts.			\$	Cts.
.....	Abington (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Mrs. Miller (I).....	.....	.....
.....	Arkansas Black (P) .....	.....	.....	.....	Nettie (I).....	.....	.....
.....	Arnout (P).....	.....	.....	.....	New Home (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Beaver (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Nick Ohmer (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Beavers (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Nimrod (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Boston Prize (I).....	.....	.....	.....	North Shore (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Brandywine (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Oom Paul (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Bubach (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Parsons' Beauty (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Cardinal (I) .....	.....	.....	.....	Pocomoke (P) .....	.....	.....
.....	Carrie Silvers (I).....	.....	.....	.....	President (I).....	.....	.....
.....	Challenge (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Pride of Cumberland (I)...	.....	.....
.....	Climax (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Pride of the Valley (I) ...	.....	.....
.....	Commonwealth (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Reba (I).....	.....	.....
.....	E. H. Ekey (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Ryckman (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Elma (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Sample (I).....	.....	.....
.....	Empress (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Senator Dunlap (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Fairfield (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Staples (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Gandy (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Stevens' Late Ch. (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Ham (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Uncle Jim (P) .....	.....	.....
.....	Haverland (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Uncle Sam (I).....	.....	.....
.....	Howard (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Velvet (I).....	.....	.....
.....	Kittie Rice (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Victor (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Latest (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Warfield (I) .....	.....	.....
.....	Livingston (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Wm. Belt (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Margaret (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Wonder (P) .....	.....	.....
.....	Marie (I).....	.....	.....	.....	Woolverton (P).....	.....	.....
.....	Marshall (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Blowers Blackberry.....	.....	.....
.....	Mead (P).....	.....	.....	.....	Comet Currant.....	.....	.....
.....	Miller (P) .....	.....	.....	.....	Amount Forward.....	.....	.....
.....	Missouri (P).....	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....
.....	Total 1st column .....	.....	.....	.....	Total .....	.....	.....

THE GLADIOLUS.

The gladiolus is the best of all our summer blooming plants for yielding cut flowers. It makes a long season, from July to November, and furnishes an abundance of beautiful blossoms which display, in countless combinations, nearly all colors and shades, from white and delicate pink, lavender and yellow to the richest dark red, garnet and purple.

CULTIVATION. The ground should be prepared as for potatoes, and furrowed about six inches deep. If the bulbs are to be planted in rows, the rows should be three feet apart. The bulbs should be set about twice their own diameter from each other in the row, and covered with four or five inches of soil. This depth is required to brace the plants, and keep them from being blown over in the growing season. This is a matter of importance, for any injury to the foliage has its effect upon the new bulb. For the plant to be blown over and partly broken off, even if straightened up again, is damaging. Another way of favoring the bulb and increasing its size, is by cutting off the spike as soon as the first flower opens. This lessens the liability to injury by wind, and also relieves the bulb of the burden of bringing its flowers into bloom, and the greater exhaustion of ripening seed, thus giving it the best possible chance to develop and mature. The spike goes on blooming and brings out its last flower just as well in water as on the plant, and even better, for it is thus protected from excessive heat, from being bruised by the wind, and from the ravages of insect enemies. When cutting off the spike, take no foliage except the two small leaves nearest the lowest blossom. Every leaf on the plant has its part in building up the new bulb. Late in the fall dig the bulbs and place them in a shed or out-building for a few days to dry, leaving the foliage attached, as it draws the moisture out of the bulbs and expedites the seasoning process. Then cut off the tops, put the bulbs into baskets, boxes or crates, not more than three or four inches deep, and store them in the cellar where they will not freeze, but not too near the furnace, lest they dry too much.

I have only one grade of gladiolus bulbs for sale this spring, the XX, and it is finer than any I ever offered before. My X bulbs were all sold a year ago, and the bulblets destroyed. The seedlings that I grow from time to time are sold in a class by themselves as seedlings, after they have bloomed and the very finest have been selected to add to the XX stock, but I have none to dispose of this year.

It is easy to find stock that is higher priced than mine, but there is no better mixture in the market at *any* price than my XX. Even the X stock which I sold at six dollars per thousand was superior to some that was many times dearer. The excellence of my XX stock is the result of thirty-five years of pains-taking effort to improve the gladiolus. I have bought most of the choice named varieties that came into market, and obtained many fine seedlings from specialists, besides growing hundreds of thousands—probably millions—of seedlings myself from seed produced by noted growers in America and Europe. From this mass of material I have gradually eliminated every thing but the best, and my present stock probably represents no more than a small fraction of one per cent. of the varieties that I have grown. Seedsmen and amateurs who are interested are cordially invited to come and see my stock in bloom any time from the first of August to the middle of October.

PRICES.

BY EXPRESS, NOT PREPAID.

	12	100
First Size—One and one-half inches in diameter and up	\$.50	\$3.00
Second Size—One to one and one-half inches in diameter	.40	2.25

If wanted by mail, add one cent each for first size, and one-half cent for second. Six and fifty at dozen and hundred rates, respectively.

M. CRAWFORD.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS FOR 1905.

"The plants reached me in due time, and to say that I was pleased with them does not express it. They were simply grand. If they do not grow it will not be the fault of the Crawford Co."—Wm. Beebe, Norwalk, O.

"Plants received in good condition. They were better than those from my own beds, something I have never been able to say before in all the years I have been buying and setting plants."—E. C. Gillet, Prattsburgh, N. Y.

"The plants are the best I ever saw, and I think every one is living."—B. F. Hudson, Lancaster, Ky.

"They are as fine plants as I ever saw. Thanks for the good count."—Chas. A. McCauley, Madison, Ind.

"Plants came in good condition, and notwithstanding extremely dry weather they are looking well."—J. C. Williams, Montclair, N. J.

"The plants I got from you yesterday were the largest and finest looking, and put up in the best style of any I ever ordered. Thanks for nice plants and good count and the extras."—J. D. Remington, Menlo, Ga.

"I like to try some fresh varieties every year, and for fine plants I come to you. I must say the plants you sent me last year were the finest I ever saw."—Jas. H. Wilderspin, Grand Saline, Tex.

"They are fine plants all the way through; good, healthy young stock."—E. Mandlin, Bridgman, Mich.

"The plants came all right and in fine condition. Many thanks for good, liberal count."—S. Wherry, Durant, Miss.

"I never before saw such a fine collection of plants, immense roots nicely straightened, the tops trimmed in perfect shape for setting, and as fresh as though just dug; perfect packing and such fine count!"—Luther Putnam, Cambridge, Vt.

"The plants came O. K., and I must say that they were fine ones. Many thanks for promptness."—B. C. Warfield, Sandoval, Ill.

"The plants you sent me came in fine shape and are now looking as well as if I had planted them from a home grown bed."—G. F. Watson, Gordon Head, British Columbia.

"We are very much pleased with your plants and your way of packing. We know of no firm equal to yours."—A. S. Dexter, E. Providence Center, R. I.

"Thanks for the strawberry plants received. They were fine ones, indeed."—A. F. Tenney, Ipswich, Mass.

"I received the plants last week in fine condition. Promptness in filling the order, and extra plants are very much appreciated."—A. M. Ericson, Hector, Minn.

"The plants I got of you were the finest lot I ever saw."—H. B. Blackman, Richland Center, Wis.

"It is a pleasure to deal with your firm, and get fine plants and Golden Rule usage."—J. M. Ramaley, Greensburg, Pa.

"Plants received in good condition, and I have never seen better ones."—W. H. Peak, Sibley, Mo.

"My little bunch of plants came all right. They were fine. Thanks for the extras."—M. M. Luzader, Harrisville, W. Va.

"I have dabbled in plants 50 years, and in all that time I never saw such before."—A. C. Denham, Somerset, Ky.

"The plants came O. K. They were very fine and full count."—Jas. H. Woodburn, Sterling, Ill.

"I received the strawberry plants all right. They were the best lot I ever bought, and I have purchased of a good many parties."—J. K. Losee, Elnora, N. Y.

"The strawberry plants were received in fine condition, and were splendid plants."—J. H. Tryon, Willoughby, O.